

ER 9-7888/a

24 OCT 1957

Mr. Gardner Cowles  
Vice Chairman  
Committee for Economic Development  
444 Madison Avenue  
New York 22, New York

Dear Mike:

I appreciate your kindness in writing me  
about the CED's Trustees meeting on November 21.  
I shall look forward with pleasure to giving  
the keynote speech.

Thank you most cordially for your letter.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

O/DCI/ [ ] rc/

23 October 1957

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ER 9-7888

Committee for Economic Development  
444 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York

October 16, 1957

Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

STAT

Don David, Al Neal and I all were delighted to learn from  of your acceptance of our invitation to speak at CED's Trustees meeting on November 21.

The topic which we would like to have you open up for consideration throughout the rest of the day is "The Competitive Struggle between American Enterprise and Soviet Communism." Clarence Randall has agreed to follow your presentation and the entire keynote session from 11:30 to 12:30 is allotted to the two of you. What you say will be off-the-record. Our usual procedure is to make a transcript of the proceedings which is kept confidential. No use would be made of the transcript without specific authorization.

The CED Trustees meeting will be held in the ballroom of the Mayflower. The business session, to which you are also invited, begins at 9:45. The keynote session which you will open, will begin promptly at 11:30. Trustees are inviting guests individually and they will begin assembling at 11:15. All of the invited guests will be top business leaders. The total audience will be somewhere between 200 and 300.

At 12:30 we will break for lunch, at which Don David will speak.

From 2:30 until 5:00 we will have presentations by experts and discussion by everyone on a series of topics tentatively titled: "Are the Soviets Winning the Battle of Production?", "Are Research and Technology the Soviet's Secret Weapon?", "Are Military Procurement and Production now a matter of Soviet Enterprise vs American Bureaucracy?"

The meeting will close with a reception and enticements to relaxation, beginning at 5:30.

Naturally, we would be pleased for you to stay for the whole day or join in any parts of it that you can steal the time for.

I trust that this will give you the general background you need. I believe you know many of the Trustees and their guests who will be present, and I am sure you will find yourself among warm friends. In CED, informality and free exchange of ideas are the general pattern of procedure, and I hope therefore that you will find some pleasure in the experience. I know you will make an important contribution toward focusing our attention on a critical issue in which the nation's business leaders have a special responsibility.

Thank you again for your willingness to speak to us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mike Cowles

Gardner Cowles  
Vice Chairman